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28 Feb 1967

23 February 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Harry Olsher/Patman Committee

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1. On 21 February the writer, accompanied by [redacted] of the Legislative Liaison Office, met with Harry Olsher, Director Foundations Study of Subcommittee No. 1 of the Select Committee on Small Business at his office in the Rayburn Building. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the possibility of limiting the access to the files of the Subcommittee by news media and other individuals not associated with the official business of the Subcommittee. Mr. Olsher's reaction to the proposal was a predictable angry, vehement refusal to cooperate with the Agency. He accused the Agency of bad faith in not getting out of the foundation field as promised in 1964. He did not give the source of the promise, nor was he asked.

2. Mr. Olsher stated that the files had been open to the press since 1964 and would continue to be available to them. He indicated that the previous day he had provided information on the M. D. Anderson and Mohlitzelle Foundations and had received calls on two other foundations that morning. He did not identify the latter two. He stated that for him to close his files to the press would result in Congressman Patman being driven from his seat in Congress by the press and that would not be allowed to happen. Mr. Olsher stated that he has between 500,000 and 750,000 pieces of paper in his foundation files. By the end of the interview Mr. Olsher had calmed down a bit but the meeting could never be termed as cordial at any time.

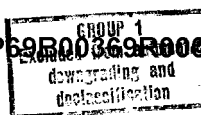
Distribution:

- 0 - Ramparts File
- 1 - Legislative Liaison
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